



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of

Hiroshi FUKUHARA

Serial No.: 10/718,641

Group Art Unit: 1764

Filed: November 24, 2003

Examiner: Neckel, Alexa Doroshenk

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PRODUCING NITROGEN GAS

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION AND  
RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 13, 2006, please consider the following:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

**Remarks** begin on page 2 of this paper.